

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A co-axial, multi-rotor wind turbine having:
 - a bearing;
 - a driveshaft, supported by said bearing;
 - a downwind projecting section of said driveshaft having rotors attached at spaced intervals;
 - a load;
 - a pivot point;wherein said load is located forward of said pivot point, so that said load acts as a counterweight, serving to at least partially counterbalance said downwind projecting section of said driveshaft and said attached rotors, about said pivot point.
2. The wind turbine of claim 1 further having an upwind projecting section of said driveshaft.
3. The wind turbine of claim 2 wherein said upwind projecting section of said driveshaft has at least one rotor attached to it.
4. The wind turbine of claim 3 wherein said at least one rotor comprises rotors attached at spaced intervals to said upwind section of said driveshaft.
5. The wind turbine of claim 1, further comprising a bearing support means, wherein said load is supported by said bearing support means.
6. The wind turbine of claim 1, further comprising a brake located upwind of said pivot point, wherein said brake acts as a counterweight, serving to help elevate said downwind section of said driveshaft.
7. The wind turbine of claim 2 wherein said load is supported by said upwind section of said driveshaft.
8. The wind turbine of claim 1, further comprising a dedicated counterweight located upwind of said pivot point, wherein said counterweight serves to help elevate said downwind section of said driveshaft.
9. A co-axial, multi-rotor wind turbine having a counterweight forward of a pivot point, said counterweight serving to at least partially counterbalance a downwind section of a driveshaft and its attached rotors.

10. The wind turbine of claim 9 wherein said counterweight comprises a load.
11. The wind turbine of claim 9, further locating a brake forward of a pivot point, so that said brake can serve as an additional counterweight.
12. The wind turbine of claim 9, further locating a support frame substantially forward of a pivot point, so that said support frame can serve as an additional counterweight.
13. The wind turbine of claim 9, further locating a dedicated counterweight forward of a pivot point, so that said dedicated counterweight can serve as an additional counterweight.
14. The wind turbine of claim 9, further comprising a guy wire that serves to help elevate the downwind section of the driveshaft.
15. The wind turbine of claim 13, further comprising a boom to help support said guy wire in an effective position.
16. The wind turbine of claim 9, further comprising a truss structure that serves to help elevate the downwind section of said driveshaft.
17. The wind turbine of claim 9, further comprising a lifting body that serves to help elevate the downwind section of said driveshaft.
18. The wind turbine of claim 17, wherein said lifting body functions by means of aerodynamic lift.
19. The wind turbine of claim 17, wherein said lifting body functions by means of buoyant lift, through the use of a buoyant gas.
20. A coaxial, multirotor wind turbine having a downwind section of a driveshaft, wherein massive components of said wind turbine are located upwind of a structural attachment point, said massive components serving to counterbalance said downwind section of said driveshaft about said structural attachment point.